

Transracial Adoption Questionnaire

Adoption Related Concepts

Certain experiences can trigger “adoption-related” concepts

What is known about racial identity?

1. What steps have been taken to learn about the adoptee’s birth origins?
 - a. Parents
 - b. Location
 - c. Environment

2. What if any incidents have occurred concerning “grief” of being adoptive?
 - a. Children can think they’re defective
 - b.

3. What is known about reculturation?
 - a. Process adoptees go through to establish original cultural identity
 - i. Seek info on birth origins (lost or never attained as a result of adoption)
 - ii. Children can have many “lived in” identities

4. What is known about assimilation? (can be a matter of survival)

Adoptee Specific Questions

5. What experiences have adoptees had with racial discrimination? (microaggressions)

6. IF and when the adoptee speaks on discriminatory experiences, how is this addressed?

7. What access do adoptees have to their cultural identities?
 - a. Mentors
 - b. Media
 - c. Literature
 - d. Peers

8. What pressure have adoptees expressed about upholding their original cultural identity?
(traditions, language etc...)
 - a. From others?
9. How, if at all, is their cultural identity taught?
10. What is in place to encourage self esteem about racial identity? (given you don't look like child)

Adopter Specific Questions

11. What influences the decision for a transracial adoption?
12. What insecurities were present about transracial adoption?
 - a. How are they different now?

Support Systems

13. What social support systems do you have?
14. What resources are present for adoptive parent groups for transracial adoptions?
 - a. If present, would there be a willingness to join?
15. What are the cultural and racial compositions of the community? (neighborhood, school etc..)
16. What friends do you have outside of your race and cultural?
17. What obstacles were foreseen about transracial adoption?
 - a. Personal?
 - b. Community?
18. What were the responses of those close to you about transracial adoption?
 - a. How have they changed?
19. What individuals in your social circle may need education on transracial adoptions?

Multicultural Experiences

20. What are the experiences around multicultural environments?
21. What commentary has been experienced about the adoptee?

22. What is commentary experienced about black culture? (in home, outside)

23. If the adoptee

Home Environment

24. How would you instill pride in your child for their culture and race?

25. What would be (or currently is) in your home that would convey to the child you hope to adopt that it's good to be of his/her cultural and racial background

a. Books, movies, magazines, art, etc...

26. Do you think your life would be different than it is now if you were of the culture and/or race of the child you ?

27. How does your child feel about being a different race than you?

Situational Questions

28. You are at the playground with your child, standing with a group of parents. Someone says, "I didn't know that your spouse is Black/Hispanic/Asian" (ie. of a different cultural and/or racial background than you). How would that make you feel, and how would you respond?

29. What would you say to the people who will tell you what a wonderful person you are for adopting your child, and how lucky your child is that you have adopted?

30. Your child is waiting for you to pick him/her up at the bus stop. When you arrive, another child says, "That can't be your father/mother; s/he is white!" How can you help your child learn to respond to such comments?

31.

